

REMARKS:

In the foregoing amendments, claims 1-17 were canceled, and new claims 18-38 were added to the application. The new claims correspond to figures 2-7. For the examiner's convenience, applicant is attaching hereto a copy of figures 2 and 5, which includes legends corresponding to the structure set forth in new claims 18-38. The copy of figure 2 includes legends identifying the "left-front corner," "left-rear corner," "right-rear corner," and "right-front corner." The copy of figure 5 includes legends identifying the "left-rear pillar," "right-rear pillar," "transverse member," and "connection member." These legends or descriptions are readily apparent from the present specification and drawings, as would be understood by those persons skilled in this art. However, if the examiner desires, applicant can amend the specification to include these descriptions.

The Official action set forth objections to claims 2-5 and 9 on pages 2 and 3. In addition, claims 1-17 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, as being vague and indefinite, which rejection was set forth on pages 3 and 4 of the outstanding Office action. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 18-38 overcome the objections to the claims set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Official action. In addition, applicant respectfully submits that new claims 18-38 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second

paragraph. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw the objections to the claims and the rejection of the claims under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 that were set forth in the outstanding Office action.

The Official action set forth three prior art rejections of applicant's claims on pages 4-7 of the Official action. Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 12, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 6,769,732 of Sakyo. Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 11, 13, 15, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 4,135,756 of Hausmann. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 5,280,955 of Nelson *et al.* (Nelson).

Applicant respectfully submits that the teachings of Sakyo, Hausmann and/or Nelson do not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for at least the following reasons. The teachings of Sakyo, Hausmann, and Nelson do not contemplate or suggest at least the following structures in applicant's claims:

- the arrangement of connection member 30 shown in Fig. 2 of the present application and required in claims 18-23,
- the middle pipe member 18 and the second connection member 31 shown in Fig. 3 and required in claims 20-23,

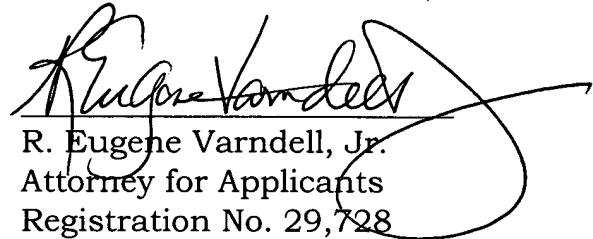
- the another connection member 32 shown in Fig. 4, which can extend orthogonally from the rear pipe member, and required in claims 24 and 25,
- the connection member 33 shown in Fig. 5 and required in claims 26, 27, and 36-38, and
- the mounting brackets shown in Figs. 6A, 6B, 6C, and 7 and required in claims 28-35.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the teachings of Sakyo, Hausmann, and/or Nelson do not contemplate or suggest the presently claimed invention within the meaning of 35 U.S.C § 102 or 35 U.S.C § 103. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw these rejections.

For the foregoing reasons, a formal allowance of all pending claims 18-38 is respectfully requested. The preceding is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Official action mailed March 21, 2005. While it is believed that all the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, should the examiner have any comments or questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at the below listed number to resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee therefor, as well as any other fees which become due, may be charged to our deposit account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
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Attachments:

Figures 2 and 5 with identifying legends for claims